



**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

APPLICANTS: Iwata, et al.

EXAMINER: Tung T. Vo

SERIAL NO.: 09/352,422

GROUP: 2613

FILED: July 12, 1999

CASE NO.: P01,0186/9792909-4938

ENTITLED: ENCODING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF SAME AND  
DECODING APPARATUS AND METHOD OF SAME

**AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Fee Amendment  
Washington, DC 20231

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Dear Sir:

- ☒ Transmitted herewith is an Amendment.
- ☒ No additional fee is required for additional Independent, Dependent or Multiple Dependent Claims.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$ .00 is attached for additional Independent, Dependent or Multiple Dependent Claims.
- ☐ A Petition for a \_\_-month Extension of Time.
- ☐ A check in the amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ is attached for the Extension of Time.

					Small Entity		or	Other Than A Small Entity	
	Claims Remaining After Amendment		Highest No. Previously	Present Extra	Rate	Addit. Fee		Rate	Addit. Fee
Total		Minus			x 9 =	\$ 63.00		x 18 =	\$
Indep.		Minus			x 39 =	\$ 39.00		x 78 =	\$
<input type="checkbox"/> First Presentation of Multiple Dependent Claim					x 130 =	\$		x 260 =	\$
Total Additional Fee						\$		Total	\$

- ☒ The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-3140. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

SONNENSCHN NATH & ROSENTHAL

By: 

John F. Nethery, Reg. No. 42,928

I hereby certify that this document and any being referred to as attached or enclosed is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231, on

September 28, 2001

Date

September 28, 2001

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In the United States Patent and Trademark Office

Applicants : lwata, et. al  
Serial No. : 09/352,422  
Filed : July 12, 1999  
Title : Encoding Apparatus and Method of Same and Decoding Apparatus and Method of Same  
Group Unit : 2613  
Examiner : Tung T. Vo  
Docket No. : 9792909-4938 (formerly Sony-P9799)

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**Response and Amendment B to  
Final Office Action Under 37 CFR 1.116**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the final Office Action, mailed June 29, 2001, in the above-identified application, and allowing three months for response. This amendment is timely because it is being filed within the time period set for response.

Please amend the application as follows:

**In the Claims:**

Please substitute the following claims for the pending claims with the same number:

- sub  
BI  
cont
1. (Twice Amended) An encoding apparatus for producing encoded data blocks, the encoding apparatus comprising a multiprocessor system comprising:  
a plurality of signal processing devices connected by a signal transfer means on which said data blocks are transferred, wherein